

Application No. 09/512,306
Amendment dated March 13, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 12, 2006

Docket No.: 20402-00602-US

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

1. (Currently Amended) A program guide information producing apparatus, provided for a broadcaster, that has a capability of outputting self-produced common program guide information and other broadcaster's common program guide information, comprising:

a common program guide information producing section which produces self-produced common program guide information based on received program organizing information,

a self-produced information transmitting section which receives said self-produced common program guide information from said common program guide information producing section and transmits said self-produced common program guide to a program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus;

a common program guide information receiving section that receives other broadcaster's common program guide information from said program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus; and

a program guide information output section that receives said self-produced common program guide information from said common program guide information producing section and also receives other broadcaster's common program guide information from said common program guide information receiving section, and unites said self-produced common program guide information and said other broadcaster's common program guide information, and outputs the united common program guide information as all broadcasters' common program guide information to a TS multiplexing apparatus,

wherein said program guide information output section outputs at least the self-produced common program guide information received from said common program

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guide information producing section when transmission of other broadcaster's common program guide information has failed.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) The program guide information producing apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a common program guide information storing section which stores the other broadcaster's common program guide information corresponding to a designated time duration in advance.

5. (Previously Presented) The program guide information producing apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein said self-produced information transmitting section transmits only the information relating to broadcast time of programs to said program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) The program guide information producing apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a version number adding section which adds a version number to said self-produced common program guide information and also to said other broadcaster's common program guide information.

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8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) The program guide information producing apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a self-produced information stepwise transmitting section which transmits control information prior to other information when renewed self-produced information is sent to a program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus, said control information being used for audio/video recording preservation in a broadcast receiver.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) The program guide information producing apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a self-produced information checking section which obtains and checks said self-produced common program guide information stored in a program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus after said self-produced common program guide information is transmitted to said program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

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17. (Previously Presented) The program guide information producing apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

an inter-station self-produced information transmitting section which directly transmits said self-produced common program guide information; and

an inter-station common program guide information receiving section which directly receives said other broadcaster's common program guide information from said other broadcaster.

18. (Original) The program guide information producing apparatus in accordance with claim 9, wherein said self-produced information stepwise transmitting section transmits only the control information relating to a presently broadcasted program to said program guide information collecting/transmitting apparatus prior to others among said control information relating to the audio/video recording preservation in the broadcast receiver.